

#13

IN THE CLAIMSAdd new claim 26 as follows:

26. (New) A method for detecting *Salmonella* using a *Salmonella* detection kit, the method requiring at least one primer and/or fluorescent probe contained in the kit, said method comprising the steps:

(a) performing PCR on DNA isolated from a sample to be analyzed for the presence of *Salmonella ssp.*, wherein the kit's PCR primers are according to SEQ ID NO: 15 and 17, and the kit's at least one fluorescent probe is according to SEQ ID NO: 16;

(b) irradiating the PCR reaction or portion thereof, with a wavelength of light capable of exciting the fluorescent probe, and

(c) quantifying the emitted light from the fluorescent probe, wherein said emitted light is indicative of the presence of *Salmonella ssp.*,

27. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the detection kit comprises the following:

- a) a forward primer of SEQ ID NO 15,
- b) a probe of SEQ ID NO 16,
- c) a reverse primer of SEQ ID NO 17,
- d) optionally a spacer between forward primer and probe,
- e) optionally a spacer between probe and reverse primer;

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f) optionally a spacer upstream from the forward primer,
g) optionally a spacer downstream from the reverse primer,
wherein the nucleotide sequences according to SEQ ID NOS: 15-17 may be substituted by a nucleotide sequence that is complementary to it, or that hybridizes to it, or has at least 70% identity with it.

CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

If any extension of time for this response is required, Applicants request that this be considered a petition therefore. Please charge the required fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

ADDITIONAL FEES

Please charge any further insufficiency of fees, or credit any excess to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

REMARKS

Claims 12-25 have been subjected to a 14-way restriction based on an alleged absence of a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

ELECTION WITH TRAVERSE

In response to the restriction requirement Applicants elect, with traverse

GROUP III, recited in claim 12 and drawn to kits comprising probes and primers for *Salmonella*.